Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 USSN 10/082,264 Attorney Docket Q68570 December 23, 2005

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

- 1. (Currently Amended) Method for carrying out in continuous, under so-called pseudo-isothermal conditions and in a predetermined reaction environment, such as a catalytic bed, a selected chemical reaction, comprising the steps of providing in said reaction environment at least one heat exchanger fed with a first flow of a heat exchange operating fluid at a respective predetermined inlet temperature, feeding a first flow of a heat exchange operating fluid at a respective predetermined inlet temperature in at least one tubular heat exchanger provided in said reaction environment said fluid passing through said at least one heat exchanger according to a respective inlet/outlet path, which, the method is characterized by further comprising feeding into said at least one heat exchanger and at one or more intermediate positions of said path, a second flow of operating fluid having a respective predetermined inlet temperature.
- 2. (Currently Amended) Heat exchanger for the method according to claim 1, comprising two wide walls (2, 3; 21, 22), a chamber (5, 26) defined between said walls (2, 3; 21, 22) and intended for being passed through by a heat exchange operating fluid, a fluid inlet connector (6, 24) and a fluid outlet connector (7, 25) in and from said chamber (5, 26) respectively, at least a distributor, (8, 9; 30, 31) of operating fluid, fixed to a wide surface of at

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least one of said wide walls (2, 3; 21, 22) at a predetermined distance from said connectors (6, 7; 24, 25) and in fluid communication with said chamber (5, 26), at least a duct (10, 28-29) for feeding said operating fluid, in communication with said at least one distributor (8, 9; 30, 31).

- 3. (Currently Amended) Heat exchanger according to claim 2, characterized in that wherein said distributor (8, 9; 30, 31) comprises a plurality of through holes (13, 32) formed in said wall (3, 22) and a casing (14), fixed externally to said wall (3, 22) to cover said holes (13, 32) and defining with it a fluid distribution chamber (15).
- 4. (Currently Amended) Heat exchanger according to claim 3, characterized in that wherein said through holes (13, 32) are arranged according to at least a rectilinear alignment.
- 5. (Currently Amended) Heat exchanger according to claim 2, characterized in that wherein said feeding duct (10) is associated externally to said exchanger (1) and is in fluid communication with said at least one distributor (8, 9) through a respective connector (11, 12).
- 6. (Currently Amended) Heat exchanger according to claim 2, characterized in that wherein said feeding duct (29) is formed between said large walls (21, 22), separated in a liquid-tight way from said chamber (26) and is in fluid communication with said at least one distributor (30, 31) through at least a through hole (33), formed in the feeding duct (29).

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